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# JESSE KREMER

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 59<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Rep. Kremer Statement on Assembly Passage of AB 222**

**Madison, WI** – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 222; a bill to implement photographs of FoodShare beneficiaries on electronic benefit debit cards.

Assembly Bill 222 would require Wisconsin's Department of Health Services (DHS) to submit an implementation plan to the Federal Nutrition Service (FNS) detailing the state's process to add photos to FoodShare QUEST cards. Federal rules require that state implementation plans must not violate federal food assistance regulations and must ensure uninterrupted benefit access for household members and authorized representatives. If the FNS approves DHS' implementation plan, the plan then moves on to the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee for final approval.

Representative Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum), the bill's Assembly author, issued the following statement:

*"We must never lose sight of the importance of maintaining the integrity of taxpayer funded programs. Millions of dollars are wasted each year as a result of FoodShare recipient fraud. AB 222 will build another layer of fraud deterrence into our FoodShare program, ensuring that benefits continue to be available to those who are truly in need. It is my goal that by implementing photos on QUEST cards, we will see a reduction in fraudulent behavior in the years to come."*

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